

but not the species described under that name by Thomson, which is very distinct and occurs in India, Burma, &c., and not, so far as I know, in China.

24. *Oberea*, sp.

One example.

In addition to the species enumerated above the collection contains one example referable to a new genus allied to *Merionæda*.

XLVIII.—*Descriptions of Two new Murines from Peru and a new Hare from Venezuela.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

Oryzomys prætor, sp. n.

Allied most nearly by proportions and skull-characters to *O. aureus*, Tomes, and *O. princeps*, Thos., but wholly different in colour. General appearance somewhat that of a small *Neotoma*.

Size large. Fur long, soft, close, and thick; hairs of back 13–15 millim. in length. General colour olivaceous fawn-grey, much darkened on the middle and posterior back by the numerous black ends to the longer hairs. Head, cheeks, shoulders, and flanks clearer yellowish grey. Under surface buffy white, quite without line of demarcation; slaty bases of hairs showing through; groins with a fulvous suffusion. Ears of medium size, blackish brown, much darker than the general colour. Outer sides of limbs like sides, inner like belly; upper surface of hands and feet uniform silvery white. Tail slightly longer than head and body, thinly haired, not pencilled, very finely scaled, the rings running about sixteen to the centimetre; its colour uniformly brown above, rather paler below.

Skull on the whole very similar to that of *O. princeps*, but with rather a broader and flatter brain-case and narrower and more parallel-sided interorbital region. Nasals rather broader. Outer plate of zygoma-root more projecting, so that the ante-orbital notch is better defined. Interorbital region narrow, parallel-sided, flat above; its edges square but not sharply so, traceable across the parietals to the outer corners of the interparietal, but not forming sharp ridges or beads. Interparietal

broad, strap-like, short antero-posteriorly. Palatal foramina large and open. Bullæ small. Molars broad and heavy.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh by collector):—

Head and body 168 millim.; tail 180; hind foot 35; ear 25.

Skull: greatest length 40; basilar length 32.2; greatest breadth 22.3; nasals 15.6×5 ; interorbital breadth 4.2; interparietal 3.8×11.2 ; palatal length from henselion 17.4; diastema 11.1; palatal foramina 9.2×3.2 ; length of upper molar series 7.6.

Hab. Eastern slope of Paramo between San Pablo and Cajamarca, Peru. Alt. 4000 metres.

Type. Female. B.M. no. 0. 3. 15. 3. Original number 719. Collected by Mr. Perry O. Simons, 10th November, 1899. One specimen only.

This fine species is no doubt most nearly allied to the Ecuadorean *O. aureus* and the Bogotan *O. princeps*, forming with these a small section of the genus, characterized by large size, soft fur, obsolete supraorbital ridges, large open palatal foramina, and a mountain habitat. As a species *O. prætor* is distinguished from the other two by many characters, of which the most obvious are its non-rufous colour and white feet.

At the same place as the type of *O. prætor* Mr. Simons obtained two rats referable to the interesting "*Thomasomys*" *cinereus*, first discovered by Dr. Stolzmann at Cutervo.

Phyllotis amicus, sp. n.

Intermediate both in size and colour between *Ph. Haggardi* and the peculiar little desert species *Ph. gerbillus*, whose reference to this group it satisfactorily confirms.

Fur fine, soft and sleek; the hairs on the back about 8-9 millim. in length. General colour above fawn-grey, finely lined with black. Face and crown quite like back. A line along cheeks, sides of neck, and flanks bright sandy yellow, dividing the dorsal colour from that of the belly. Under surface white, the bases of the hairs slaty. Ears very large, finely haired, their outer surface greyish brown, their inner fawn-grey. Upper surface of hands and feet pure white. Tail long, well-haired, and slightly pencilled terminally, brown above, white below.

Skull in general form quite like those of the two species above named, but its bullæ, in correlation with the external ears, are unusually large, being larger than in the decidedly bigger species *Ph. Haggardi*.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh by collector):—

Head and body 82 millim.; tail 105; hind foot 23; ear 23.

Skull: greatest length 24.4; basilar length 18.1; greatest breadth 12.7; nasals, length 9.8; interorbital breadth 4; palate length 10; diastema 6; palatal foramina 5×1.7 ; length of upper molar series 3.8.

Hab. Tolon, coast district, Province Cajamarca, N.W. Peru. Altitude 100 m. Other specimens from Eten, on the coast, and from Reque, in its near neighbourhood.

Type. Male. B.M. no. 0. 3. 1. 94. Original number 685. Collected 2nd November, 1899, by Mr. Perry O. Simons. Fourteen specimens examined.

This species is interesting as forming the connecting-link between the ordinary members of the genus and the aberrant *Ph. gerbillus* found in the deserts to the north-west. Occasional specimens of the latter are nearly as dark in colour, but even from these *Ph. amicus* may always be readily distinguished by its larger size, much larger ears, longer tail, slate-mixed belly, and yellowish lateral line. From *Ph. Haggardi*, on the other hand, it is separable by its smaller size and paler colour.

*Sylvilagus * orinoci*, sp. n.

General appearance much as in *S. Gabbi*, All., but probably really most nearly allied to *S. cumanicus*, Thos.

Colour above coarsely grizzled buffy and black, the marbling not so coarse as in *S. cumanicus* and the tone not unlike that of *S. Gabbi*. Underfur pale plumbeous basally, black terminally. Outer fur with a subterminal band of buffy, much darker than in *S. cumanicus* and with a black tip. Forehead dark buffy rufous. Cheeks greyish, area round eye whitish and that between eye and ear darker, all as in *S. cumanicus*, but the contrasts not nearly so marked. Nape-patch clear rufous. Ears shorter than in the allied species, their anterior backs greyish, gradually darkening at the terminal edges to black; their fringes, posterior backs, and whole inner surface silvery grey. Chin and throat white, a faint line along centre of chin brown. Pectoral collar deep buffy. Belly whitish, not sharply defined, mixed laterally with buffy, which latter colour also invades the white on each side in the ante-inguinal region. Outer sides of limbs buffy, inner whitish, the latter continued on to the tops of the hands and feet. Tail quite short and stumpy, indistinctly brown above, pale buffy below.

* See Major, Trans. Linn. Soc. (2) Zool. vii. p. 514 (1899).

Skull, as compared to that of *S. cumanicus*, smaller and more delicate; muzzle narrower anteriorly; frontal processes of premaxillæ terminating about one tenth of an inch in front of the end of the nasals; palatal foramina narrower; bullæ larger in proportion, especially anteriorly. Incisors with the same deep simple notch in front as in *S. cumanicus*.

Dimensions of the type (taken by the collector in the flesh):—

Head and body 355 millim.; tail 27; hind foot 70 (c. u. 75); ear from notch 55.

Skull: greatest length 70; basilar length 55; greatest breadth 34; nasals 31.2×13.5 ; interorbital breadth 16.6; intertemporal breadth 13.8; palatal foramina 19.5×6.2 ; length of upper tooth-row (alveoli) 14.

Hab. Maipures, Upper Orinoco.

Type. Female. B.M. no. 99. 9. 11. 49. Collected 22nd January, 1899, by Geo. K. and Stella M. Cherric. Two specimens examined.

This species is more or less intermediate in size, as in geographical position, between the comparatively large *S. cumanicus* (and its ally *S. Margaritæ*, Miller) and the little *S. brasiliensis*.

XLIX.—On a new Genus and Species of Bulbul and an apparently new Species of Cyornis. By Col. C. T. BINGHAM, F.Z.S.

DURING a recent two months' tour in the Southern Shan States, Upper Burma, I had opportunities for making a small collection of the birds frequenting the high plateau-lands in those States. I was fortunate also in being able to spend three or four days on Loi-San-Pa, a mountain nearly 8000 feet in height, situated in the Möng Köng State.

Among the birds procured, I find after careful comparison with published descriptions and with the series of birds contained in the Indian Museum, Calcutta, that the following species, descriptions of which are given below, have apparently not been previously described. One of these birds is a Bulbul closely resembling in habits the species belonging to the genus *Hypsipetes*, Vigors, but differing so markedly from them in certain points of structure and in colour, and also from all known Bubluls, that I have no hesitation in proposing a new genus for its reception.